adopted the National Water Policy which inter-alia envisages augmenting the availability of water by maximising retention of rainfall. It is primarily for the State Government to implement water conservation schemes to operationalise the National Water Policy.

Besides water conservation by conventional storage reservoirs, Government of India is also promoting rainwater harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rainwater harvesting for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge.

Per Capita availability of water

680. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether per capita availability of water is falling sharply in the country on account of increasing population and shrinkage of Himalayan Glaciers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete and scientific steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to augment and harness the water resources in each States particularly in Gujarat and Chhattisgarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The average annual precipitation in the country remains more or less fixed according to the natural hydrologic cycle. The per capita average annual water availability in the country is reducing progressively owing to increasing propulation. The average annual per capita water availability is estimated to be about 1869 Cu. m. in 2000 AD at national level. Availability of water in rivers is assessed river basin-wise. As per assessment of water resources potential made by Central Water Commission in 1993, the average annual availability of water in major river basins in the country and the per capita availability for projected population for 2000 AD is given in Statement (*See* below)

Water resources development including construction of storage for utilization of water is taken up by the State Government as per their own priorities. A live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been created by construction of large dams upto 1995. Projects to add an additional storage capacity of about 75 BCM are under construction and 132 BM are under planning. The replenishable ground water is of the order of 432 BCM, out of which about 154 BCM has been developed for use. With the help of these storages and other minor irrigation schemes an irrigation potential of 90 Mha has been created upto the end of the Eighth Plan against the ultimate irrigation potential of 139.9 Mha in the country.

As a long term measure National Water Development Agency of Government of India have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking between various peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins. Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Government and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge. Assistance is also extended to State Governments under Command Area Development Programme for bridging the gap between potential created and utilized. For early completion of ongoing irrigation projects Government of India is extending assistance to State Governments including Gujarat and Chattisgarh under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme.

Statement

Basin-wise Water Resources Potential of India and Per Capita Water Availability

Sl. No.	River Basin	Average Annual Surface Water Availability (BCM)	Per Capita Water Availability (Cubic meter) 2000
1	Indus	73.31	1482
2	Ganga	525.02	1239
3	Brahmaputra & Barak	585.6	14057
4	Godavari	110.54	1734
5	Krishna	78.12	1088
6	Cauvery	21.36	619
7	Subernrekha	12.37	1118
8	Brahmani Baitarni	28.48	2463
9	Mahanadi	66.88	2131
10	Pennar	6.32	550
11	Mahi	11.02	888
12	Sabarmati	3.81	307
13	Narmada	45.64	2628
14	Tapi	14.88	853
	West Flowing rivers between		
15	a. Tapi to Tadri	87.41	2870
16	b. Tadri to Kanyakumari	113.51	2950
17	c. Kutch and Saurashtra incl. Luni	15.1	579
	East Flowing rivers		
18	East Flowing rivers	22.52	808
19	b. Pennar to Kanyakumari	16.46	311
20	Area of Inland Drainage in Rajasthan		
21	Minor Rivers draining into Bangladesh and Myanmar	31	12500
	TOTAL	1869.35	